

REMARKS

The office action mailed 7/28/04 acknowledged entry of the amendment filed 5/10/04 but did not acknowledge the supplemental amendment filed 5/13/04. The Examiner confirmed to the undersigned by telephone that she did enter the 5/13/04 amendment. Consequently, the present amendment is based on the assumption that the 5/13/04 amendment was entered by the Examiner.

Claims 1-13, 25-37 and 62-64, 66-75 and 77-84 are now pending. Claims 1-13 and 25-37 stand allowed. Claims 62-83 were rejected. Claim 84 is newly added.

Newly added claim 84 is identical to allowed claim 38 which Applicant inadvertently canceled in the amendment filed with the Request for Continued Application. Therefore, claim 84 should be allowable.

Dependent claims 65 and 76 are canceled because their limitations are now included in independent claims 62 and 75.

In response to the rejection of claims 62-83 under 35 USC 112, independent claims 62, 70, 75 and 81 are amended to recite that the temperature reading of the second (perimeter) thermocouple is 10 to 20 degrees higher temperature than that of the first (radially inward) thermocouple. The range of 10 to 20 degrees higher is a subset of the broadest range of 10 degrees lower to 20 degrees higher encompassed by the invention. The narrower range of 10 to 20 degrees higher is supported by Table 2 (below paragraph [0057]) because this is the complete range of temperature differentials reported in Table 2.

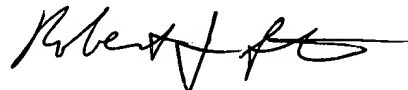
Defining the two temperatures as the temperature readings of the two thermocouples is supported in the specification in paragraph [0048], first sentence; paragraph [0054], third sentence; paragraph [0057], second sentence; and paragraph [0042], third sentence (page 10, lines 2-5).

Independent method claims 62 and 70 also are amended to recite that the deposited film has a thickness uniformity less than or equal to ten percent, as requested by the Examiner. However, this limitation is omitted from apparatus claims 75 and 81. Applicant asserts that a specific uniformity is not a requirement of the invention because claim 14 as originally filed included no uniformity

limitation. Instead of being an essential feature of the invention, a uniformity less than or equal to ten percent is merely the beneficial result obtained during tests of the invention.

Because independent claims 62, 70, 75 and 81 as now amended are supported in the specification as described above, the rejection over 35 USC 112 is overcome, and claims 62-64, 66-75 and 77-83 are now allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Stern', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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